

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 12106 222059Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----042183 222103Z /63

O R 222047Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0031
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12106

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR AF FOR MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS CD US GW
SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REFS: (A) BONN 19942; (B) STATE 167607

SUMMARY. THE FRG IS CONSIDERING GRANTING DM 4-5 MILLION
IN COMMODITY AID TO CHAD AS ITS CONTRIBUTION TO
WESTERN ASSISTANCE EFFORT. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO THE CHAD DESK OFFICER, FOREIGN MINISTER
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GENSCHER HAS BEFORE HIM A PROPOSAL TO GRANT DM 4-5
MILLION IN COMMODITY AID TO CHAD. THIS, GIVEN POLICY
AGAINST PROVIDING MILITARY AID, IS FELT TO BE THE MOST
APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO CHAD AT THIS TIME.

2. ORDINARILY, GENSCHER'S APPROVAL OF SUCH A REQUEST
WOULD BE SUFFICIENT FOR ACTION TO BE

TAKEN. MINISTRY OF FINANCE POLICY, HOWEVER, PROHIBITS THE EXTENSION OF NEW AID, EVEN IN AN EMERGENCY, TO A COUNTRY CURRENTLY IN ARREARS IN ITS PAYMENTS ON DEBTS TO THE FRG. CHAD OWES APPROXIMATELY DM 1.5 MILLION. OUR FONOFF CONTACT SPECULATED, HOWEVER, THAT GENSCHER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE APEL WILL REACH A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE DILEMMA AND THAT AID TO CHAD WILL NOT BE BLOCKED ON THIS TECHNICALITY.

3. COMMENT: AS STATED IN REF (A), THE FRG LOOKS TO ITS EUROPEAN PARTNERS AND THE US TO PROVIDE THE MILITARY AID IT CANNOT. THE FRG'S CONTRIBUTION MUST BE VIEWED IN THIS LIGHT.

4. THE DESK OFFICER WHO PROVIDED THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS AWARE OF THE APPROACH MADE TO GENSCHER BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND AMBASSADOR STOESSEL AND OF THE NON-PAPER LEFT WITH GENSCHER. THE INFORMATION SHE PROVIDED ON COMMODITY AID WAS IN PARTIAL RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR VIEWS OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT ON ASSISTANCE TO CHAD, ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF HOW THE EFFORTS OF CONCERNED GOVERNMENTS COULD BEST BE COORDINATED. IN THE ABSENCE OF MANY SENIOR OFFICERS ON VACATION, WE DOUBT THAT THE GERMANS HAVE FOCUSED AS YET ON THAT ASPECT OF OUR APPROACH. WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO FOLLOW UP WITH THE FRG IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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NEAR FUTURE, BUT BEFORE DOING SO WOULD APPRECIATE A CURRENT INDICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OWN THINKING --

PARTICULARLY IN THE LIGHT OF INDICATIONS FROM EMBASSY PARIS THAT OUR INITIAL IDEA FOR A MEETING OF "FRIENDS OF CHAD" UNDER FRENCH AUSPICES MAY NOT PROVE FEASIBLE.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMODITIES, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, GOVERNMENT GRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN12106
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770262-1032
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770731/aaaaazxi.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 64c1ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 BONN 19942, 77 STATE 167607
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1783034
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD
TAGS: MASS, CD, US, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/64c1ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009